

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-13

ACDA-19 SAJ-01 RSR-01 /125 W
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R 271711Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7065

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USNMR SHAPE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 12242

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MCAP, NATO, GW

SUBJECT: FRG BUNDESWEHR REORGANIZATION

REF: A. BONN 8990; B. BONN 4933

ACCORDING TO MOD SOURCES, A FORMAL DEFENSE MINISTRY PROPOSAL ON THE REORGANIZATION OF THE BUNDESWEHR MAY NOT BE READY BEFORE THE END OF SEPTEMBER OR MID-OCTOBER. MINISTRY TEAMS ARE CONTINUING TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF THE PROPOSALS WHICH WE OUTLINED IN THE REFTELS, AND OUR SOURCES SAID THAT IT IS LIKELY BUT NOT CERTAIN, THE FINAL PROPOSAL WILL NOT PUT COMBAT UNITS ON CADRE STATUS OR CALL FOR CUTS IN ARMOR, AT APC, ARTILLERY OR OTHER IMPORTANT COMBAT ITEMS. A BASIC CONCEPTUAL APPROACH OF THE CURRENT PROPOSAL IS, AS WE SET FORTH PARA 4, REF B, TO TIE THE BUNDESWEHR MORE DIRECTLY TO FRG TERRITORY BY CHANGING PART OF THE CURRENT TO&E AND STRUCTURE OF THE GERMAN ARMY. HOWEVER, THE STUDY TEAMS HAVE ENCOUNTERED FAR MORE
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PROBLEMS THAN EXPECTED, PARTICULARLY IN THE FINANCIAL

IMPLICATIONS OF VARIOUS PARTS OF THE PROPOSAL. ALL
ALTERNATIVES POINT IN THE DIRECTION OF AN UNEXPECTEDLY
TIGHT SQUEEZE BETWEEN THE RESOURCES EXPECTED TO BE
AVAILABLE IN THE COMING YEARS AND THE PROJECTED COSTS
OF THE PROPOSAL UNDER STUDY.

HILLENBRAND

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NNN

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